

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An optical pickup apparatus comprises first, second and third light sources to emit light fluxes of wavelength  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3$  for conducting recording and/or reproducing information for first, second and third optical information recording mediums having respective protective substrates of thickness  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$  and  $t_3$  and a diffractive optical element located on a common optical path for the first, second and third light sources. A converged-light spot is formed on the first optical information recording medium with  $m$ -th order diffracted-light ray of the wavelength  $\lambda_1$ , on the second optical information recording medium with  $n$ -th order diffracted-light ray of the wavelength  $\lambda_2$ , and on the third optical information recording medium with  $k$ -th order diffracted-light ray of the wavelength  $\lambda_3$  generated by the diffractive optical element respectively, wherein one of  $m$ ,  $n$  and  $k$  is different from one of other two numbers.